

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The claims are in the format as required by 35 C.F.R. § 1.121.

1. (Currently Amended) A device for allocating network bandwidth on a per user basis comprising:

- a processor;
- a first network interface coupled to the processor;
- a second network interface coupled to the processor;
- a storage medium accessible by the processor;
- a set of computer instructions stored on the storage medium, executable by the processor to:
  - retrieve a set of user profiles, wherein each user profile corresponds to a specific user in a set of users;
  - establish at least one network bandwidth limit for each user in the set of users based on the corresponding user profile for that user;
  - for each user in the set of users, regulate network bandwidth usage associated with that user based on the at least one network bandwidth limit established for that user; and
  - update the at least one network bandwidth limit for at least one user from the set of users.

2. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user profile.

3. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user connecting to the device.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a time of day.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on utilization averaging for the corresponding user.

6. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit by modifying a traffic control rule containing the at least one network bandwidth limit.

7. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to meter network bandwidth usage on a per user basis.

8. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to establish a traffic control rule for each user containing the at least one network bandwidth limit for that user.

9. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 8, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit for the at least one user by updating the traffic control rule for the at least one user.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 9, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to access each traffic control rule from an IP table based on an indicator associated with each traffic control rule.

11. (Original) The device of Claim 10, wherein the indicator comprises a MAC address.

12. (Original) The device of Claim 10, wherein the indicator comprises an IP address.

13. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

receive a network communication from a first user from the set of users over the first network interface destined for a network connected to the second network interface;  
access a traffic control rule for the first user that includes an upload network bandwidth limit for the first user; and  
determine if the network communication causes the upload network bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

14. (Original) The device of Claim 13, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to receive the network communication from the user over a wireless network.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

receive a network communication over a network connected to the second network interface destined for a first user from the set of users;  
access a traffic control rule for the first user that includes a download network bandwidth limit for the first user; and  
determine if the network communication causes the ~~upload~~ download network bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

16. (Original) The device of Claim 15, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to receive the network communication from the user over a wireless network.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to monitor sessions on per user basis.

18. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

prioritize network bandwidth allocations for network applications for at least one user based on the corresponding user profile for that user.

19. (Currently Amended) A device for allocating network bandwidth on a per user basis comprising:

a storage medium;

a set of computer instructions stored on the storage medium, executable by a processor

to:

retrieve a set of user profiles, wherein each user profile corresponds to a specific user in a set of users;

establish at least one network bandwidth limit for each user in the set of users based on the corresponding user profile for that user;

for each user in the set of users, regulate network bandwidth usage associated with that user based on the at least one network bandwidth limit established for that user; and

update the at least one network bandwidth limit for at least one user from the set of users.

20. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user profile.

21. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user connecting to the device.

22. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a time of day.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit based on utilization averaging for the corresponding user.

24. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit by modifying a traffic control rule containing the at least one network bandwidth limit.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to meter network bandwidth usage on a per user basis.

26. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to establish a traffic control rule for each user containing the at least one network bandwidth limit for that user.

27. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to dynamically update the at least one network bandwidth limit for the at least one user by updating the traffic control rule for the at least one user.

28. (Original) The device of Claim 27, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to access each traffic control rule from an IP table based on an indicator associated with each traffic control rule.

29. (Original) The device of Claim 28, wherein the indicator comprises a MAC address.

30. (Original) The device of Claim 28, wherein the indicator comprises an IP address.

31. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

receive a network communication from a first user from the set of users over a first network interface destined for a network connected to a second network interface;

access a traffic control rule for the first user that includes an upload network bandwidth limit for the first user; and

determine if the network communication causes the upload network bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

32. (Original) The device of Claim 31, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to receive the network communication from the user over a wireless network.

33. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

receive a network communication over a network connected to a first network interface destined for a first user from the set of users;

access a traffic control rule for the first user that includes a download network bandwidth limit for the first user; and

determine if the network communication causes the ~~upload~~ download network bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

34. (Original) The device of Claim 33, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to receive the network communication from the user over a wireless network.

35. (Original) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to monitor sessions on per user basis.

36. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 19, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to:

prioritize network bandwidth allocations for network applications for at least one user based on the corresponding user profile for that user.

37. (Currently Amended) A method for allocating network bandwidth on a per user basis comprising:

retrieving a set of user profiles, wherein each user profile corresponds to a specific user in a set of users and wherein each user profile contains an arbitrary number of attributes specifying bandwidth limitations for the corresponding specific user;

establishing at least one network bandwidth limit for each user in the set of users based on the corresponding user profile for that user;

for each user in the set of users, regulating network bandwidth usage associated with that user based on the at least one network bandwidth limit established for that user; and

updating the at least one network bandwidth limit for at least one user from the set of users.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, ~~wherein the computer instructions are further executable to~~ further comprising:

~~dynamically update~~ updating the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user profile.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising:

dynamically updating the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a new user connecting to the device.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising dynamically updating the at least one network bandwidth limit based on a time of day.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising dynamically updating the at least one network bandwidth limit based on utilization averaging for the corresponding user.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising dynamically updating the at least one network bandwidth limit by modifying a traffic control rule containing the at least one network bandwidth limit.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising metering network bandwidth usage on a per user basis.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising establishing a traffic control rule for each user containing the at least one network bandwidth limit for that user.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising dynamically updating the at least one network bandwidth limit for the at least one user by updating the traffic control rule for the at least one user.

46. (Original) The device of Claim 45, further comprising accessing each traffic control rule from an IP table based on an indicator associated with each traffic control rule.

47. (Original) The method of Claim 46, wherein the indicator comprises a MAC address.

48. (Original) The method of Claim 46, wherein the indicator comprises an IP address.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising:  
receiving a network communication from a first user from the set of users over a first network interface destined for a network connected to a second network interface;  
accessing a traffic control rule for the first user that includes an upload network bandwidth limit for the first user; and  
determining if the network communication causes the upload network bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

50. (Original) The method of Claim 49, further comprising receiving the network communication from the user over a wireless network.



51. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising:  
receiving a network communication over a network connected to a first network interface  
destined for a first user from the set of users;  
accessing a traffic control rule for the first user that includes a download network  
bandwidth limit for the first user; and  
determining if the network communication causes the ~~upload~~ download network  
bandwidth limit to be exceeded.

52. (Original) The method of Claim 51, further comprising further comprising receiving  
the network communication from the user over a wireless network.

53. (Original) The method of Claim 37, further comprising monitoring sessions on per  
user basis.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 37, further comprising prioritizing  
network bandwidth allocations for network applications for at least one user based on the  
corresponding user profile for that user.

55. (Currently Amended) A device comprising a set of computer instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium, the computer instructions executable by a processor to:

- establish a network bandwidth limit for a user based on a user profile for the user;
- receive a first network communication;
- determine if the first network communication causes the network bandwidth limit to be exceeded;
- if the first network communication causes the network bandwidth limit to be exceeded, drop the network communication; and
- update the network bandwidth limit for the user.

56. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 55, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to establish a traffic control rule for the user containing the network bandwidth limit.

57. (Original) The device of Claim 56, wherein the computer instructions are further executable to access the traffic control rule from an IP table based on an indicator.

58. (Original) The device of Claim 57, wherein the indicator comprises a MAC address and an IP address associated with the user.

59. (Original) The device of Claim 55, wherein the user profile specifies network application priorities for network applications.

60. (Original) The device of Claim 55, wherein the user connects to the device via a network comprising a wireless network.